

Remarks

The Applicants have cancelled Claims 1 and 3 - 8 without prejudice and without disclaimer of the subject matter therein. The Applicants specifically reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications directed to the subject matter of those claims.

The Applicants have amended Claim 2 to correct several typographical errors.

Entry of the above amendment and cancellations into the official file is respectfully requested inasmuch as those actions place this application into complete condition for allowance and, at a minimum, surely reduce the number of issues for appeal.

Claims 1 and 3 - 8 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. The Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is now moot in view of the cancellation of those claims.

Claims 1 - 9 and 16 stand provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness type double patenting over Claims 38 - 42 of Application Serial No. 10/143,111, Claims 1 - 21 of Application Serial No. 11/447,560, and Claims 1 - 9 of Application Serial No. 11/447,714.

The Applicants respectfully submit that Applications Serial No. 10/143,111 and 11/447,560 are abandoned, thereby rendering that portion of the rejection moot. This leaves Application Serial No. 11/447,714. Inasmuch as all of the claims in this application are now otherwise allowable, the Applicants respectfully request that the provisional double patenting rejection be withdrawn and the claims in this application pass to allowance. Any double patenting issues can be addressed in the later filed co-pending Application Serial No. 11/447,714. Such action is in accordance with MPEP 1490(V)(D). In particular, the Applicants note that this section recites that "if the ODP rejection is the only rejection remaining in the earlier-filed of the two pending applications, (but the later-filed application is rejectable on the

other grounds), the Examiner should then withdraw that rejection and permit the earlier-filed application to issues as a patent without a terminal disclaimer." Such action is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire Application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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